

WE CLAIM:

1 1. A method for providing information to a radio appliance playing audio content
2 broadcast by a radio station, comprising the steps of:
3 receiving a request for information about the audio content from the radio
4 appliance;
5 receiving information from the radio appliance indicating the identity of the audio
6 content;
7 accessing a database that contains the requested information; and
8 delivering the requested information to the radio appliance.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the request for information, the audio program
2 identity information, and the requested information are delivered through the Internet.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the information indicating the identity of the
2 audio content consists of a unique radio appliance identifier and an indicator used to
3 identify the radio station.

1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the information indicating the identity of the
2 audio content consists of a unique radio appliance identifier and a digitized form of the
3 audio content.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the requested information are details of a musical
2 work.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the details of a musical work include the identity
2 of a musical work and the title of a CD that contains the musical work.

1 7. The method of claim 5, wherein the details of a musical work include purchasing
2 information about the musical work.

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein:
2 the audio content is an advertisement that encourages the listener to engage in a
3 commercial transaction; and
4 the requested information is details about the commercial transaction.

1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the details about the commercial transaction
2 include product details.

1 10. The method of claim 8, wherein the details about the commercial transaction
2 includes information about completing the commercial transaction.

1 11. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of receiving a request to
2 complete the commercial transaction encouraged by the advertisement.

1 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving information indicating the
2 identity of the audio content is done frequently enough to identify all the audio content
3 being played on the radio appliance.

1 13. The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of receiving information
2 indicating when the radio appliance has it's volume adjusted.

1 14. The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of receiving information
2 indicating when the radio appliance is tuned to a different broadcast station.

1 15. The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of receiving information
2 indicating when the radio appliance is turned off.

1 16. An appliance, comprising:
2 a radio for receiving and decoding radio waves to play audio content broadcast by
3 radio stations;
4 user controls to request information about the audio content.

1 17. The appliance of claim 16, further comprising a communications device that
2 transmits data about the information requested with the user controls.

1 18. The appliance of claim 17, wherein the audio content is a musical work

1 19. The appliance of claim 17, wherein the audio content is an advertisement.

1 20. The appliance of claim 17, wherein the user controls can be used to complete a
2 commercial transaction.

1 21. The appliance of claim 17, wherein:
2 the audio content is an advertisement that encourages the listener to engage in a
3 commercial transaction; and
4 the user controls can be used to complete the commercial transaction encouraged
5 by the advertisement.

1 22. An appliance, comprising:
2 a radio for receiving and decoding radio waves to play audio programs broadcast
3 by radio stations, the radio having features that include adjustable volume,
4 and radio frequency tuning;
5 user controls used to access the features; and
6 a communications device that transmits data indicating which features were
7 accessed with the user controls.

1 23. A method for monitoring volume on an Internet appliance, comprising the steps
2 of:
3 receiving a request to access media content available on the Internet; and
4 receiving information relating to how the volume was modified while the media
5 content was received on the Internet appliance.

1 24. An Internet appliance, comprising:
2 an Internet media device for receiving and decoding media received from sources
3 on the Internet, the Internet media device having features that include
4 adjustable volume;
5 user controls used to access the features; and
6 a communications device that transmits data indicating which features were
7 accessed with the user controls.

1 25. The Internet appliance of claim 24, wherein the Internet media device is a
2 personal computer with a software codec.